

Lansing-Pemberton House
North Pearl and Columbia Streets
Albany, Albany County
New York

HABS No. NY-3203
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
NY-3 District

Historic American Buildings Survey
Prepared at Washington Office

LANSING-PEMBERTON HOUSE
North Pearl and Columbia Streets, Albany
Albany County, New York

Date of erection: c. 1710

Present condition: razed

Builder: Mr. Lansing

Description:

Yellow brick; one and a half stories. The upper section was left unfinished for several years and used during that time for the storage of skins and furs. No two rooms were on the same level. The ceilings were not plastered, but the beams and sleepers were polished and the jambs of the fireplace faced with porcelain, ornamented with Scripture scenes.

Additional data:

Built by Lansing, the house was later sold to a man named Pemberton and was at one time occupied by the widow Viischer. It was especially distinguished as the lodging place for Indians when they came to Albany for the purpose of trading their furs, too often for rum and worthless ornaments.

Here in this building many stirring scenes transpired when the Indians held their powwows and became uproarious under the influence of strong drink. At such times the widow would use her broomstick freely. It was a potent scepter in her hands and never failed to restore order, for the most stalwart Indian who had ever felt its power looked upon it with awe.

The building has been destroyed, but there is in the possession of Mr. Andrew L. Delehanty, 455 Ontario Street, Albany, New York, an original pediment from the door of this house and also one of the iron anchors used to fasten the construction work to the supporting walls.

Other existing records:

Munsell's book published in the early 1800's; Helen Wilkinson Reynolds' Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley before 1776